Radio/TV/Pamphlets/Brochures/Local Dak Mela/Puppet Shows/ 'Bal Bachat Yojana' for school children in rural areas/small savings agents etc.

(iii) Motivational Savings Bank Training is being imparted to postal staff, Branch Postmasters, Gramin Dak Sevaks to educate the villagers about the different small savings schemes available in the Post Office and guiding them on investment.

(0 Yes, Sir. A children policy is proposed to be introdused in both PLI and RPLI. We have already sent the proposal to Insurance Division for necessary approval, which has referred the matter to IRDA.

Navaratna status to VSNL

†1136. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to
state:

(a) whether VSNL has demanded the status of Navaratna from government; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL
AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL) was a Navaratna Company before its disinvestments on 13.02.2002. Presently it is privately managed company with Central Government having only 26.12% of stake and therefore, it is not a Public Sector Enterprises (P.S.E.) and is not eligible for Navaratna status.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Modernization of BSNL

†1137. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide the cheapest cellular services in comparison to private cellular services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to modernize the BSNL for this purpose; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.